DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 049 533 EA 003 403

TITLE	School Expense in Fiscally Dependent School Systems Compared With Total City Expense, 1968-69. Educational Research Service Circular Number One, 1971.
INSTITUTION	American Association of School Administrators, Washington, D.C.; National Education Association, Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE	71
NOTE	10p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Educational Research Service, Box 5, NEA Building, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 ($1.00, quantity discounts)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF-$0.65 HC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Educational Finance, Fiscal Capacity, *School District Spending, School Funds, *School Statistics, School Support, Statistical Data, *Tables (Data), *Urban Schools

ABSTRACT

This statistical report compares school expenses with total expenses for maintenance and operation of general governmental departments in cities of over 50,000 population that include school systems in city government costs. Reported in tabular form are (1) total payments for major functions, (2) total payments for schools, (3) cost per capita for major functions, (4) cost per capita for schools alone, and (5) percentage of total city expense allocated to schools. Annual data for 1964-69 are also given, by population grouping, indicating the cost per capita for schools and the percentage of total city expense allocated to schools. A related document is ED 032 636. (LLR)

ED049533

PROCESS WITH MICROFICHE AND PUBLISHER'S PRICES. MICROFICHE REPRODUCTION ONLY.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE
American Association of School Administrators and
NEA Research Division
1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036

ERS

CIRCULAR

NO. 1, 1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

SCHOOL EXPEN$E IN FI$CALLY DEPENDENT SCHOOL SYSTEMS COMPARED WITH TOTAL CITY EXPEN$E, 1968-69

Permission to reproduce this copyrighted work has been granted to the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) and to the organization operating under contract with the Office of Education to reproduce documents included in the ERIC system by means of microfiche only, but this right is not conferred to any users of the microfiche received from the ERIC Document Reproduction Service. Further reproduction of any part requires permission of the copyright owner.

Single copy of this Circular — $1.00
Copyright © 1971 by the
EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE
All Rights Reserved

EA 003 403

1

ED049533

ERS CIRCULAR NO. 1, 1971

January 1971

SCHOOL EXPENSE IN FISCALLY DEPENDENT SCHOOL SYSTEMS COMPARED WITH TOTAL CITY EXPENSE, 1968-69
(75 Cities and Towns over 50,000 in Population)

As an aid to officials in cities and towns whose school systems are fiscally dependent upon the local government, the Educational Research Service has since 1927 reported data comparing expenditures for local public schools with total city expense, using figures published by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. Over the years, a number of changes have taken place in the scope of the study--the elimination of fiscally independent cities from the report, the expansion and subsequent reduction of the population groups covered by the Census Bureau, and a change from a fiscal year concurrent with the calendar year to a fiscal year ending June 30.

The report has had its present scope and format since 1963-64, when the June 30 fiscal year reporting began. In these six years the number of fiscally dependent cities and towns with 50,000 or more population has decreased by only one--St. Paul, Minnesota, which became fiscally independent in 1965-66.

Scope of the report. It should be noted that, in addition to the size limitation of cities with 50,000 or more population, only local governments which operate fiscally dependent school systems whose boundaries are coterminus or nearly coterminus with the city or town boundaries are included in the report. Thus, fiscally dependent county school systems are excluded from the report even though they include the schools in the county's major cities; the one exception to this is Nashville-Davidson County, Tennessee, which has a metropolitan form of government--the city and county form a single governmental unit and taxing authority.

In addition to the 72 cities in the report, three New England towns of more than 50,000 in population and having fiscally dependent school systems are included because their governments are considered by the Census Bureau to be "similar to cities in organization and local services provided." These towns are reported in the table beginning on page 4, but have been excluded from the summary figures in that table and other summary tables in this Circular. This follows the practice of the Census Bureau which does not include the amounts for town governments in computing its municipal aggregates.

The 75 cities and towns in the city-by-city table are classified, in keeping with Census Bureau practice, into five population groups. The table includes the following data for each of the cities and towns: the estimated population as of December 31, 1968 (column 1); the total 1968-69 expenditures for major municipal functions (column 2) and for schools alone (column 3); the per capita cost of major municipal functions (column 4) and of schools (column 5); and the percent of total city expense that was disbursed for schools in 1968-69 (column 6).

Sources of data. Population figures reported in column 1 for each city and town in the table beginning on page 4 are from *Sales Management's* 1969 "Survey of Buying Power" (complete reference on page 8).

The municipal expenditures reported in columns 2 and 3 were published in 1970 by the U. S. Bureau of the Census in *City Government Finances in 1968-69* (see page 8 for complete reference). The per capita costs for major functions and for schools (columns 4 and 5) and the percentage that school expense is of total city expense (column 6) were computed by ERS from the figures in columns 1, 2, and 3.

The major functions included by the Census Bureau in arriving at the figures in column 2 are listed in footnote a/ of the table, while footnote b/ explains the expenditures for schools shown in column 3. CAPITAL OUTLAY IS NOT INCLUDED in the figures shown in columns 2 and 3.

Limitations on data in this report. In using the data in this Circular, the reader should bear in mind that the summary figures are based on data only for the 72 cities with 50,000

or more population where the public school boards are fiscally *dependent*. Actually, there are more than 300 cities in this population group, but the majority are fiscally *independent* of the local government. Summary figures would doubtless be quite different if all cities of 50,000 were included.

Comparisons of the figures in the city-by-city table beginning on page 4 should recognize the following limitations on the data reported for the 75 cities and towns:

1. It appears from the explanations and definitions in the Census Bureau report that its figures for city expenditures include some funds received from the federal government, either directly or through the state government. Figures published by other agencies might exclude such funds in reporting local expenditures.

2. The assignments of functions among the municipal departments and the schools vary in different cities. For example, the Census figures may include in total city expense, rather than in school expense, such items as school health services and school elections.

3. The proportion of school-age population enrolled in public schools varies from city to city.

4. Variations in administrative organiztion and in emphases on different phases of education contribute to differences in costs among cities.

5. It is possible that in a few cases the boundaries of the city and the school system are not exactly coterminus.

It is inadvisable, on the basis of these limitations in scope and data, to attempt to relate the figures reported in this Circular to school expenditure figures published by other agencies, such as the U. S. Office of Education and the National Education Association.

Expenditures for schools. Tables A and B bring together the summary data for each population group on per capita expenditures for education and the percent of the total city disbursements represented by school expenditures. The data are shown for 1968-69 and four previous years.

The 1968-69 figure of $145.31 per capita expenditure for education in the 72 cities (Table A) represents an increase of 15.3 per-

Table A.

SUMMARY OF PER CAPITA EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS IN CITIES OVER 50,000 IN POPULATION HAVING DEPENDENT SCHOOL SYSTEMS[a/]

Population group	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
Total (all cities)	$83.64	$94.77	$113.50	$125.99	$145.31
1,000,000 and over (NYC)	93.65	106.63	128.60	143.36	169.01
500,000 to 999,999	74.77	84.97	104.34	120.31	147.04
250,000 to 499,999	79.11	92.19	116.28	123.64	139.23
100,000 to 249,999	76.11	84.40	97.37	107.77	116.54
50,000 to 99,999	78.64	87.42	97.63	106.08	115.54

a/ Figures are based on data for cities only; the three towns in the 50,000-99,999 population group are excluded.

Table B.

SUMMARY OF PERCENT THAT SCHOOL EXPENSE IS OF TOTAL CITY EXPENSE IN CITIES OVER 50,000 IN POPULATION HAVING DEPENDENT SCHOOL SYSTEMS[a/]

Population group	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
Total (all cities)	31.0%	31.1%	32.5%	30.9%	31.1%
1,000,000 and over (NYC)	26.7	26.5	27.6	25.5	25.7
500,000 to 999,999	27.8	28.2	28.5	28.1	29.9
250,000 to 499,999	40.1	42.3	46.8	45.9	46.1
100,000 to 249,999	40.0	41.6	43.0	43.0	42.9
50,000 to 99,999	41.5	42.3	43.0	42.4	43.8

a/ Figures based on data for cities only; the three towns in the 50,000-99,999 population group are excluded.

cent over 1967-68 and a 73.7 percent increase since 1964-65.

As an examination of the city-by-city table shows, the per capita expenditures for public education range widely among the 75 fiscally dependent school systems. The extremes in per capita expenditures for 1968-69 are $71.79 and $211.25. Coincidentally, both of these figures are for Massachusetts cities in the 50,000 to 99,999 population group.

The actual distribution of the 72 cities according to the per capita expenditures for education is as follows:

Per capita expenditure for schools	Number and percent of cities
Less than $100	17 (23.6%)
$100.00-$119.99	23 (32.0%)
120.00- 139.99	17 (23.6%)
140.00- 159.99	9 (12.5%)
160.00 or more	6 (8.3%)

Excluding the three towns and the 11 cities in footnote d/ for which 1968-69 expenditure data were not available, only four cities decreased in per capita expenditure for schools.

Table B shows that the percent of city monies used for schools in the total group of 72 cities, and in all but one of the population groups, increased slightly in 1968-69 over the previous year. Three of the groups and the total, however, are still lower than the 1966-67 averages. The average for all cities in 1968-69 is exactly the same as for 1965-66, although only New York City, of all the population groups, shows a decline from the 1965-66 percentage. This fact points up again the caution that should be exercised in using the figures in this report.

The extremes in percent of municipal expenditures for schools are 22.0 percent and 64.1 percent. Distribution of the 72 cities according to the percent that school expense was of total city expense in 1968-69 is shown below, by 10 percent intervals:

School expense as percent of total city expense	Number and percent of cities
Less than 30%	7 (9.7%)
30.0-39.9%	19 (26.4%)
40.0-49.9%	24 (33.3%)
50.0-59.9%	19 (26.4)
60.0% or more	3 (4.2%)

Thus, about three out of 10 of these 72 fiscally dependent cities spent at least half of their 1968-69 monies on schools, and almost two-thirds spent 40 percent or more. Again discounting the three towns and the 11 cities for which 1968-69 data were not available, 38, or 62.3 percent, saw an increase in the percentage of their budgets that went to schools; 23, or 37.7 percent, a decrease.

SCHOOL EXPENSE COMPARED WITH TOTAL EXPENSE FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENTS IN 75 CITIES AND TOWNS OVER 50,000 POPULATION IN WHICH SCHOOL SYSTEMS ARE A PART OF CITY GOVERNMENT, 1968-69

City and estimated population	Total payments for major functions[a] (In thousands)	Total payments for schools[b] (In thousands)	Cost per capita of population: For major functions	Cost per capita of population: For schools alone	Percent that school expense is of total city expense
1	2	3	4	5	6
GRAND TOTAL--72 cities over 50,000 in population[c]	$9,075,140	$2,819,616	$467.71	$145.31	31.1%
City over 1,000,000 in population:					
New York, N.Y. (8,075,400)	5,318,970	1,364,824	658.66	169.01	25.7
Cities 500,000 to 999,999 in population:					
Washington, D.C. (809,100)	529,089	146,712	653.92	181.33	27.7
Baltimore, Md. (918,200)	412,841	139,844	449.62	152.30	33.9
Boston, Mass. (600,400)	333,944	73,416	556.20	122.28	22.0
Memphis, Tenn. (541,100)	136,313	61,856	251.92	114.32	45.4
Total, 4 cities	1,412,187	421,828	492.26	147.04	29.9
Cities 250,000 to 499,999 in population:					
Jersey City, N.J. (268,400)	73,982	24,070	275.64	89.68	32.5
Newark, N.J. (392,700)	149,922	67,444	381.77	171.74	45.0
Buffalo, N.Y. (474,600)	147,568	73,107	310.93	154.04	49.5
Rochester, N.Y. (295,600)	106,628	56,516	360.72	191.19	53.0
Nashville-Davidson County, Tenn. (458,300)	107,222	53,769	233.96	117.32	50.1
Norfolk, Va. (302,400)	77,051	30 79	254.80	100.13	39.3
Total, 6 cities	662,373	305,185	302.18	139.23	46.1
Cities 100,000 to 249,999 in population:					
Bridgeport, Conn. (154,800)	40,712	15,794	263.00	102.03	38.8
Hartford, Conn. (161,200)	57,400	23,844	356.08	147.92	41.5
New Haven, Conn. (140,800)	42,996	17,521	305.37	124.44	40.8
Stamford, Conn.[d] (109,100)	31,386	15,757	287.68	144.43	50.2

SCHOOL EXPENSE COMPARED WITH TOTAL CITY EXPENSE (Continued)

City and estimated population	Total payments for major functions[a]	Total payments for schools[b]	Cost per capita of population		Percent that school expense is of total city expense
	(In thousands)		For major functions	For schools alone	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Cities 100,000 to 249,999 in population (Continued):					
Waterbury, Conn. (111,500)	$ 21,880	$ 9,392	$196.23	$ 84.23	42.9%
Cambridge, Mass. (102,600)	37,416	8,733	364.68	85.12	23.3
New Bedford, Mass.[d] (100,400)	27,858	8,587	277.47	85.53	30.8
Springfield, Mass. (170,000)	48,157	15,211	283.28	89.48	31.6
Worcester, Mass. (180,500)	65,900	21,877	365.10	121.20	33.2
Elizabeth, N.J. (116,700)	24,738	12,524	211.98	107.32	50.6
Paterson, N.J. (149,200)	33,579	17,994	225.06	120.60	53.6
Trenton, N.J. (108,000)	29,909	15,253	276.94	141.23	51.0
Albany, N.Y. (124,000)	28,272	13,650	228.00	110.08	48.3
Syracuse, N.Y. (212,100)	54,492	27,681	256.62	130.51	50.8
Yonkers, N.Y.[d] (209,800)	46,643	22,438	222.32	106.95	48.1
Providence, R.I. (178,800)	41,374	17,841	231.40	99.78	43.1
Chattanooga, Tenn. (127,800)	45,636	16,307	357.09	127.60	35.7
Knoxville, Tenn. (176,400)	37,776	20,337	214.15	115.29	53.8
Alexandria, Va. (113,700)	30,516	14,272	268.39	125.52	46.8
Hampton, Va. (120,300)	25,279	14,761	210.13	122.70	58.4
Newport News, Va. (137,100)	33,851	17,556	246.91	128.05	51.9
Portsmouth, Va.[d] (128,700)	28,320	11,950	220.05	92.85	42.2
Richmond, Va. (220,500)	81,454	29,967	369.41	135.90	36.8
Roanoke, Va.[d] (100,400)	23,602	11,145	235.08	111.01	47.2
Madison, Wis. (168,100)	44,180	21,805	262.82	129.71	49.4
Total, 25 cities	983,326	422,197	271.44	116.54	42.9
Cities 50,000 to 99,999 in population:					
Greenwich Town, Conn.[c] (65,200)	20,113	10,306	308.48	158.07	51.2
Meriden, Conn. (57,600)	13,868	6,583	240.76	114.29	47.5

SCHOOL EXPENSE COMPARED WITH TOTAL CITY EXPENSE (Continued)

City and estimated population	Total payments for major functions[a]	Total payments for schools[b]	Cost per capita of population		Percent that school expense is of total city expense
	(In thousands)		For major functions	For schools alone	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Cities 50,000 to 99,999 in population (Continued):					
New Britain, Conn. (88,200)	$ 19,821	$ 9,144	$224.73	$103.67	46.1%
Norwalk, Conn. (79,300)	20,913	12,546	263.72	158.21	60.0
West Hartford Town, Conn.[c] (74,700)	20,131	11,976	269.49	160.32	59.5
Wilmington, Del. (84,900)	26,506	11,731	312.20	138.17	44.3
Portland, Maine (70,800)	16,278	7,239	229.92	102.25	44.5
Brockton, Mass. (89,700)	24,929	9,758	277.92	108.78	39.1
Brookline Town, Mass.[c] (53,700)	22,662	7,197	422.01	134.02	31.8
Chicopee, Mass. (61,200)	14,580	7,591	238.24	124.04	52.1
Fall River, Mass.[d] (97,900)	27,995	7,268	285.96	74.24	26.0
Holyoke, Mass. (53,100)	13,983	4,968	263.33	93.56	35.5
Lawrence, Mass. (68,100)	19,924	4,889	292.57	71.79	24.5
Lowell, Mass. (87,500)	27,105	9,155	309.77	104.63	33.8
Lynn, Mass.[d] (91,400)	30,644	9,578	335.27	104.79	31.3
Malden, Mass. (57,100)	17,160	5,886	300.53	103.08	34.3
Medford, Mass. (59,600)	17,910	6,644	300.50	111.48	37.1
Newton, Mass. (89,900)	37,591	18,991	418.14	211.25	50.5
Pittsfield, Mass. (56,800)	17,434	8,325	306.94	146.57	47.8
Quincy, Mass. (88,800)	35,061	12,066	394.83	135.88	34.4
Somerville, Mass. (85,800)	26,145	8,480	304.72	98.83	32.4
Waltham, Mass.[d] (59,200)	16,309	6,450	275.49	108.95	39.5
Manchester, N.H. (94,700)	18,030	7,065	190.39	74.60	39.2
Atlantic City, N.J.[d] (60,200)	19,242	5,551	319.63	92.21	28.8
Bayonne, N.J.[d] (73,300)	14,351	5,989	195.78	81.71	41.7
Bloomfield, N.J.[d] (54,500)	11,000	6,194	201.83	113.65	56.3
Clifton, N.J. (89,600)	15,663	8,254	174.81	92.12	52.7

SCHOOL EXPENSE COMPARED WITH TOTAL CITY EXPENSE (Continued)

City and estimated population	Total payments for major functions[a/] (In thousands)	Total payments for schools[b/] (In thousands)	Cost per capita of population: For major functions	Cost per capita of population: For schools alone	Percent that school expense is of total city expense
1	2	3	4	5	6
Cities 50,000 to 99,999 in population (Continued):					
East Orange, N.J. (77,600)	$ 19,468	$ 9,075	$250.88	$116.95	46.6%
Irvington, N.J. (63,400)	13,790	5,542	217.51	87.41	40.2
Passaic, N.J. (56,500)	11,937	5,886	211.27	104.18	49.3
Union City, N.J. (52,000)	11,026	5,689	212.04	109.40	51.6
Cranston, R.I. (75,200)	15,470	9,006	205.72	119.76	58.2
Pawtucket, R.I. (77,900)	15,967	7,045	204.97	90.44	44.1
Warwick, R.I. (82,600)	19,293	12,230	233.57	148.06	63.4
Lynchburg, Va. (55,900)	14,090	7,429	252.06	132.90	52.7
Green Bay, Wis. (88,300)	22,351	13,321	253.13	150.86	59.6
Kenosha, Wis. (77,300)	19,507	12,500	252.35	161.71	64.1
Wauwatosa, Wis. (61,100)	13,744	8,120	224.94	132.90	59.1
West Allis, Wis. (77,800)	19,199	9,394	246.77	120.75	48.9
Total, 36 cities[c/]	698,284	305,582	264.02	115.54	43.8

Footnotes:

a/ Figures for "total payments for major functions" include, in addition to school expenditures, the amounts spent for police protection, fire protection, highways, airports, water transport and terminals, sewerage and other sanitation, public welfare, libraries, hospitals and other health services, correction, parks and recreation, general public buildings, housing and urban renewal, parking and other municipal commercial activities, protective inspection and regulation, financial administration, general control, and interest on general debt. Expenditures for capital outlay are omitted.

b/ Expenditures for schools, as reported by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, are the amounts spent for educational institutions operated by the city government (rather than by separate school district), involving mainly public elementary and secondary schools but including also any institutions of higher education operated by the city. Included are related school-administered facilities and services such as public transportation of students, school health and recreation programs, school lunch programs, and school libraries. Expenditures for school lunch services, athletic events, and other commerical or auxiliary services are reported on a gross basis. Expenditures for capital outlay and interest are omitted.

c/ Data for the following major towns are included in the table because their governmental operations closely resemble those of municipal governments; however, the figures for these towns are not included in the totals for the various population groups or in the grand total:

Greenwich Town, Conn. West Hartford Town, Conn. Brookline Town, Mass.

(Continued)

Footnotes *(Continued)*:

d/ For the following cities, data for 1968-69 were not available; amounts shown are for the 1967-68 fiscal year:

Stamford, Conn.	Bayonne, N. J.
Fall River, Mass.	Bloomfield, N. J.
Lynn, Mass.	Yonkers, N. Y.
New Bedford, Mass.	Portsmouth, Va.
Waltham, Mass.	Roanoke, Va.
Atlantic City, N. J.	

Sources of data:

- Estimated population figures in Column 1 are from:

  Sales Management. "Survey of Buying Power." Sales Management 102: Section D; June 10, 1969. (Estimates as of December 31, 1968)

- Data in Columns 2 and 3 are from:

  U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. City Government Finances in 1968-69. Series GF69-No. 4. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1970. Table 5 (p. 9-48).

- Data in Columns 4, 5, and 6 were computed by the Educational Research Service, using population figures shown in Column 1 and expenditure figures shown in Columns 2 and 3.

ERS

The EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE, operated by the American Association of School Administrators and the Research Division of the National Education Association, is available on a subscription basis to school systems and other agencies concerned with educational administration. A subscription to the Service provides prompt information service upon request, together with a large number of timely research reports and professional publications.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE CIRCULARS, reporting current practices in various areas of local school administration, are issued six to ten times a year. Subscribers to the Service receive one copy of each *Circular* automatically. Larger quantities, when ordered directly from ERS, are available to subscribers at a special discount (2-9 copies, 15%; 10 or more, 30%). Nonsubscribers may purchase single copies at the price indicated on the cover of each *Circular,* or larger quantities at the regular NEA discount (2-9 copies, 10%; 10 or more, 20%).

PLEASE NOTE: Subscriptions to the *ERS CIRCULAR* are not accepted separately from a subscription to the complete service.

A subscription to ERS is $80 a year and may begin on the first of any month. For complete information, write to:

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE
Box 5, NEA Building
1201 Sixteenth Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C. 20036